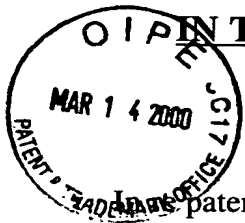


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JB



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 081356/0111

Inventor patent application of
Susumu KAJIWARA et al.

Serial No.: 08/737,319

Group Art Unit: 1652

MAR 15 2000

Filed: November 12, 1996

Examiner: B. MAYHEW

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

For: **A DNA CHAIN USEFUL FOR INCREASING PRODUCTION OF
CAROTENOIDS**

STATUS INQUIRY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants received an Office Action mailed September 16, 1999 advising all claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution is suspended for an indefinite period. Please advise of the status of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

3/13/00
Date

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